



Favorable with Amendment
Senate Bill 528
Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022

Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
February 15, 2022

Honorable Paul Pinsky
Chair, Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Chesapeake Solar and Storage Association (CHESSA), thank you for the opportunity to issue our **Support** of **Senate Bill 528** (we do have one corrective amendment discussed below). The impact of climate change can no longer be debated. The causes are numerous and, therefore, the solution must be comprehensive. CHESSA believes SB 528 represents the comprehensive solution that Maryland needs to address climate change through taking aggressive actions to reduce greenhouse gas reductions.

There are several provisions specific to the solar industry that CHESSA strongly supports:

- Requiring electric ready standards in new buildings that ensures they are ready for installation of solar energy systems
- Waiving county and municipal personal property tax incentives for certain community solar projects that serve low- and moderate-income households
- Requiring State facilities to procure 75% of their energy supply from low-carbon sources, including solar, by 2030
- Convening stakeholders to discuss new opportunities for workforce training in renewable energy, especially targeting those underrepresented in the industry.

Additionally, CHESSA would like to offer one corrective amendment. CHESSA was formerly known as MDV-SEIA but recently changed its name to better reflect our organization scope.

Amendment

Amendment No. 1

On page 18, in line 8 and 9, strike “~~MARYLAND-DC-DELAWARE-VIRGINIA SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES~~” and replace with “**CHESAPEAKE SOLAR AND STORAGE**”

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Submitted by:

Isaac Meyer, Compass Government Relations Partners, on behalf of CHESSA